

**REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO****RDBN FORESTRY COMMITTEE
(Committee of the Whole)
Agenda**

Thursday, July 23, 2015

<u>PAGE NO.</u>		<u>ACTION</u>
	<u>Agenda – July 23, 2015</u>	Adopt
	<u>Supplementary Agenda</u>	Receive
	<u>MINUTES</u>	
2-5	Forestry Committee Meeting Minutes - June 11, 2015	Receive
	<u>DISCUSSION ITEM</u>	
6-7	Rough Draft re: Plan for Proposed Workshop on Wildfire	
	<u>CORRESPONDENCE</u>	
8-9	Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations – Pricing Regime for Community Forest Agreements	
	<u>SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA</u>	
	<u>NEW BUSINESS</u>	
	<u>ADJOURNMENT</u>	

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO**FORESTRY COMMITTEE MEETING**
(Committee of the Whole)**Thursday, June 11, 2015**

PRESENT:	Chair	Rob MacDougall
	Directors	Taylor Bachrach Eileen Benedict Shane Brienen Mark Fisher Tom Greenaway Dwayne Lindstrom Thomas Liversidge Bill Miller Rob Newell Mark Parker Jerry Petersen Darcy Repen Luke Strimbold Gerry Thiessen – left at 2:34 p.m.
	Director Absent	Dwayne Lindstrom, Village of Burns Lake
	Staff	Gail Chapman, Chief Administrative Officer Cheryl Anderson, Manager of Administrative Services Hans Berndorff, Financial Administrator Deborah Jones-Middleton, Protective Services Manager Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant
	Others	Kerry Martin, Burns Lake Community Forest Daniella Oakes, Hampton Affiliates
<u>CALL TO ORDER</u>		Chair MacDougall called the meeting to order at 1:57 p.m.
<u>AGENDA</u>		Moved by Director Miller Seconded by Director Bachrach
<u>F.C.2015-4-1</u>		"That the Forestry Committee Meeting Agenda of June 11, 2015 be adopted as amended." (All/Directors/Majority) <u>CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY</u>
<u>MINUTES</u>		
<u>Forestry Committee Meeting Minutes – April 16, 2015</u>		Moved by Director Miller Seconded by Director Petersen
<u>F.C.2015-4-2</u>		"That the Forestry Committee Meeting Minutes of April 16, 2015 be received." (All/Directors/Majority) <u>CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY</u>

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

Moved by Director Petersen
Seconded by Director Greenaway

F.C.2015-4-3

"That the Forestry Committee receive the following correspondence:

-Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations regarding the Morice Apportionment 2015;
-Forest Practices Board regarding Fuel Management in the Wildland Urban Interface – Update;
-FireSmart Canada – Local FireSmart Representative Training Workshop."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Chair MacDougall mentioned the importance of communities taking ownership of working to FireSmart their communities. Staff will invite Wildfire Management Branch representatives to a future meeting to discuss the FireSmart Canada Community Recognition Program.

Director Miller brought forward the Forest Practices Board correspondence regarding Fuel Management in Wildland Urban Interface – Update. Director Miller brought forward the possibility of facilitating a gathering with industry, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, Wildfire Management Branch and licensees to facilitate a conversation in regard to roles and responsibilities regarding Wildland Urban Interface.

Moved by Director Miller
Seconded by Director Greenaway

F.C.2015-4-4

"That the Forestry Committee recommend that the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Board of Directors direct staff to organize a gathering with industry, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, Wildfire Management Branch and licensees to facilitate a conversation in regard to roles and responsibilities regarding Wildland Urban Interface."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Director Miller mentioned that he would bring forward the information to the Omineca Beetle Action Coalition on June 12, 2015 for consideration of assistance in organizing the meeting.

Al Gorley, Triangle Resources Inc. was discussed as a potential facilitator.

Discussion took place regarding a timeline to host the gathering. Staff will determine response from participants as to attending the gathering in the summer months of 2015.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

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1. **Federal Endangered Species**
a. **Possible impact upon forestry in B.C.**

Director Miller explained that the Federal Government through the Federal Ministry of Environment is proposing Federal Endangered Species regulations to address migratory bird populations that will make it impossible for the forest industry to log between spring (break up) to mid-summer (August). Industry is aware of the possible changes and is very concerned with the shortened timeframe to log. Industry is meeting to develop recommendations to forward to the Federal Government. Director Miller is in contact with representatives from Babine Forest Products and will continue to update the Forestry Committee regarding the issue.

2. **Replanting of Burned Areas/ Enforcement**

Director Thiessen spoke to the trend of increasingly larger wildfires. Discussion took place regarding having representative(s) from Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations to speak to the replanting of burned areas and the enforcement of that replanting.

Director Miller mentioned that he spoke to the northern representative at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Convention on June 4-8, 2015 in Edmonton, AB. regarding federal pine beetle funding that was promised in 2007 for pine beetle impacted regions. Chair MacDougall explained that the bioenergy plants can utilize some of the burned fibre, so utilization of that fibre as soon as possible would enable the ability to replant the trees.

Chair Miller stated as local government leaders it is important to lobby the Federal Government regarding the funding that was promised and to bring the issue forward with Members of Parliament in the region. Chair Miller will bring forward the information to the Omineca Beetle Action Coalition meeting on June 12, 2015.

Discussion took place in regard to having the representatives nominated for Member of Parliament to be invited to attend a future Regional District meeting to discuss issues brought forward. Staff will invite Federal Government Members of Parliament to discuss Mountain Pine Beetle funding, CN Rail Safety issues. Further questions can be forwarded to staff.

3. **Slash Burning Of Logged Areas**

Director Thiessen spoke to the burning of the slash in logged areas. He spoke to the hazards associated with the piles being fuel sources during wildfire events. Chair Miller noted the importance for the Forestry Committee to have open discussions with stakeholders as to the importance of fire mitigation. Chair MacDougall spoke to the rules in place for forest licenses and licensees agreements to address hazard abatement.

Discussion took place regarding the debris being part of the fertilization cycle for the trees. Director Miller explained that there is a coarse woody debris management regime that prescribed burns leaves logs/trees that add fertilizer to the ground. Currently the light fibre debris that causes flash fires, the fibre that doesn't get burned when a prescribed burn is conducted, provides a light quick fuel that is a ladder fuel and will burn into new growth and destroy a plantation.

DISCUSSION ITEMS (CONT'D)

Slash Burning Of Logged Areas (Cont'd)

Chair MacDougall mentioned that the provincial government now charges for the utilization of waste wood in the forest through bioenergy licenses.

Coastal GasLink Pipeline Project Timber Salvage Strategy

Chair MacDougall indicated that the Coastal GasLink Pipeline Project Timber Salvage Strategy will be brought forward for future discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

Fraser Basin Council

Director Greenaway mentioned that he attended a Fraser Basin Council meeting and toured areas west of Quesnel. He brought forward concerns regarding the amount of wood being removed and already has been removed from the area at an incredible rate of speed. He spoke to the impacts to the area for the next two to three years.

Chair Miller spoke to the removal of the dead pine prior to it no longer being marketable.

Closure of Tl'oh Forest Products in Fort St. James

Chair MacDougall mentioned that the Tl'oh Forest Products finger joint value added plant in Fort St. James has ceased operations due to a lack of supply.

Chair MacDougall spoke to fibre leaving communities and noted the importance of utilizing fibre locally.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Director Brienen
 Seconded by Director Fisher

F.C.2015-4-5

"That the meeting be adjourned at 2:48 p.m."

(All/Directors/Majority)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

 Rob MacDougall, Chair

 Wendy Wainwright, Executive Assistant

PLAN FOR PROPOSED WORKSHOP ON

WILDFIRE

PURPOSE

Improve wildfire management in the region by identifying opportunities for communities and local governments to be more effective partners with the Province and other stakeholders.

SCOPE

- Public health and safety throughout the region.
- Protection of public and private assets in wildland-urban interface areas.
- Protection of public and private assets on the forest landscape.
- Protection of forest resource values.

OBJECTIVES

1. A common understanding of the interests, concerns and challenges related to wildfire management in the region.
2. Identification of specific opportunities where the parties can work together to address the challenges.

HOST

Regional District of Bulkley – Nechako
(Supported by the Omineca Beetle Action Coalition)

LOCATION – Burns Lake (venue TBA)

DATE – (TBA – mid to late October)

PARTICIPANTS

RDBN committee members and staff

OBAC representative

Invited:

- MFLNRO wildfire management and land management staff
- FNESS and/or First Nations
- Forest industry
- Regional District Fraser Fort George representative
- Others?

DOCUMENTATION

Summary notes and action items will be documented and shared with all participants

POTENTIAL TOPICS

Workshop Questions:

1. Are there weak links in the wildfire management chain? (forest planning and practices, fuels, standards for infrastructure and community development, fire preparedness, prevention, detection, reporting, initial attack, expanded attack capacity, training, communication, evacuation and public safety, restoration, transparency continuous improvement, ...)

2. Where can we work together to strengthen them?

POTENTIAL DISCUSSION FRAMEWORK

Short presentations by RD, FN, Industry, FLNRO (possibly RDFFG debrief on Bobtail)

Open question and discussion period

Identify "candidate" opportunities for cooperative action

WORKSHOP PLANNING PROCESS

Do we want to send invitees a draft agenda and ask for their input?

Have most people seen the Brian Simpson presentation or should we ask someone from FLNRO to do it for this group?

DRAFT



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Reference: 214980

July 8, 2015

Bill Miller, Chair and
Rob MacDougall, Chair Forestry Committee
Regional District of Bulkley Nechako
P.O. Box 820
Burns Lake, British Columbia
V0J 1E0

RECEIVED
JUL 13 2015
REGIONAL DISTRICT OF
BULKLEY NECHAKO

Dear Chair Miller and Mr. MacDougall:

Thank you for your letter to the Honourable Steve Thomson, Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations outlining your interests relative to the pricing regime for Community Forest Agreements (CFA). I have been asked to respond and apologize for the delay.

I would like to acknowledge the efforts of the CFA holders in the Regional District of Bulkley Nechako in managing multiple forest uses for social, environmental and economic considerations in a challenging urban interface and the successful results they have achieved.

In regards to your letter about the current stumpage regime applied to CFAs, staff have not been directed to conduct a formal review of stumpage rates payable by CFA holders; however, there is an ongoing discussion between the British Columbia Community Forest Association board of directors and ministry staff to ensure that the current stumpage regime is meeting the objectives of government and CFA holders.

Thank you again for bringing your CFA concerns to the minister's attention.

Sincerely,

T. R. (Tim) Sheldan
Deputy Minister

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Bill Miller, Chair, and Rob MacDougall, Chair Forestry Committee

pc: Honourable Steve Thomson, Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural
Resource Operations
Doug Stewart, Director, Forest Tenures Branch, Tenures, Competitiveness
and Innovation Division
Steve Kozuka Acting Director, Timber Operations, Pricing and First Nations Division